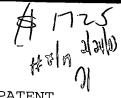


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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Mikko VEIKKOLAINEN et al

Application No: 09/941,485

Filed: August 28, 2001

Art Unit: 1725

Examiner:

Clifford C. Shaw

REPLY TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED 11/04/2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

For: WELDING ARRANGEMENT AND METHOD

Sir:

Further examination and consideration of this application are requested in view of the following Amendments and Remarks.

<u>AMENDMENTS</u>

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 14 and 15, rewrite as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of forming a welded structure comprising:

arranging constituent pieces of the structure to be welded on a support surface in a desired configuration,

recording at least one extended image of the arrangement of the constituent pieces on the support surface,

determining from the image(s) the positions of a plurality of weld points,

welding with welding apparatus the constituent pieces together at said weld points to form the welded structure, and controlling the welding of the constituent pieces with said welding apparatus on the basis of the determined positions of the weld points.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising A2 recording the at least one image in memory.